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CONVICT FORMULATES UNION POLICY

Castro Out To 'Liberate' Puerto Rico

By FULTON LEWIS JR.
WASHINGTON. — The Central Intelligence Agency has alerted Administration leaders to a new madness by Cuba's Fidel Castro: A project "to work for the liberation of Puerto Rico."

It could be the final straw in Washington tolerance toward the Havana dictatorship. Castro's chief lieutenant in the project is Daniel Salvador, a member of the U. S. head of the Cuban Federation of Labor and a key figure in the Communist underground before and during the revolution. He operated under the code name "Mario."

The intelligence reports say Salvador has three leading Cuban friends with whom he operated in the underground: Lázaro Peña, also an incendiary laborer; Blas Roca, the Communist Party boss; and Rafael Domínguez, a specialist in insurance.

The campaign already is under way over the Cuban radio with daily diatribes of anti-Americanism designed particularly for Puerto Rican consumption. The Cuban government radio has openly called for a U. S. revolution, propagandized heavily on Salvador's "supremacy," and has accused American officials of "treason" in "a crime syndicate which is waging a gangster campaign against Cuba."

In Puerto Rico, the tie-in between the Communists and the so-called nationalist movement is an established fact to the extent that the House Un-American Activities Committee recently



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held hearings on the subject in San Juan.

ALMOST CERTAINLY chairman of the coming Democratic National Convention is Louisiana's Hale Boggs, 20-year veteran of the House . . . one rival, Missouri's Richard Bolling, is out because of his open championing of that state's Sen. Stuart Symington . . . Another, Rep. John McCormack of Massachusetts, is a bitter factional enemy of Sen. John Kennedy, and himself is supporting Boggs . . . The GOP fathers are inclining toward Senate leader Everett Dirksen of Illinois because House Leader Charlie Halleck is a working candidate for the vice presidency.

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JIMMY HOFFA'S Teamsters Union is probably the only one in the country where a top official can formulate high-level policy while lolling in a prison cell, and then get a "furlough" to attend an executive meeting.

When Hoffa's executive committee broke up after three days of conferences here 10 days ago, the committee's 15 members returned to their various locals and councils across the country. All except one — Frank Matula Jr., who returned to his cell at the Los Angeles county jail where he is currently doing time for perjury.

Matula was deeply involved in a Los Angeles rubbish-collection racket, using his post as secretary-treasurer of Local 396 to control the dump sites and keep the competition away. The matter came to the attention of a committee of the State Legislature, which called Matula for questioning. The committee decided that Matula, in addition to being a Teamster official, was also a liar.

A Superior Court jury found Matula guilty of perjury, a de-

cision later affirmed by the California Supreme Court. Hoffa, who was sentenced to 30 years in 1964, was able to negotiate a \$2,000 fine and five years of probation.

JUST BEFORE departing for jail Matula received word that in honor of his meritorious service he had been named by Hoffa as one of the union's three international trustees. It was a spiteful move by Hoffa, designed to irk a Congress that had just legislated against most convicts — but not, for some reason, perjurers — who held union jobs.

Matula went off to jail, holding down both his union posts. He was soon informed that the executive committee was holding a Washington meeting from Jan. 11 through the 13th, to which he was cordially invited.

Matula appealed to Judge Noble that he be permitted to attend the meeting, and Noble granted the request on the grounds that Matula might lose his position if not allowed to attend.

On Jan. 10, Matula left his cell, without a guard, to journey to Washington on "official business." He showed up at Teamster headquarters for the meeting, chatted with a lot of old friends and benefactors like Jimmy Hoffa, and nine days later, like the good little felon he is, returned to California and jail.